

## ROCKER

This majestic oak rocking chair  
I bought from a neighbor  
is too big for me.  
It reminds me  
of my grandfather  
first mayor of Susanville  
who died in 1949.  
It sits in our livingroom  
silently collecting dust  
& assorted clothes  
from the dryer.

## LOST

Remembering magic  
lines by Etter rush  
inside get lost in  
book find jewel  
by WCW carry  
book outside jazz  
singer on fm  
distracts me  
lose it too.

## MATCH

## BODEGA TIDES

Met Y.A. Tittle (white haired  
little overweight) at The Tides.  
Introduced myself said  
I'd been a fan of his  
for years then bought  
three fresh salmon steaks.  
Later, Pat wanted to find  
his million dollar home  
she'd heard was near  
the golf course. But it  
was hopeless. Any one  
of dozens up there  
might have been his.

I like to be  
at 165 Al  
said. I'd  
like to be  
at 170 but  
maybe I'd  
go 165 I  
said. Not  
you Al said  
your bones  
are too big  
comparing hands  
astonished  
to see our  
bones match.

## PATHFINDER

Words often frustrate me.  
There's too many I can't  
pronounce or don't know.  
Reading history book Herb  
loaned me ran into  
vicissitude: a hurdle  
I couldn't clear.  
Humiliated, trying to  
decide whether to look  
it up or just go  
around noticed change  
scrawled minutely above  
it & gratefully  
continued reading.

## BURNOUT

Feeling ugly after  
work worry I'll be  
mistaken for hold  
up man shifting  
uneasily in line  
hands fidgeting in  
pockets eyes darting  
over faces up wall  
across floor a  
sweating burnt out  
school teacher anxious  
to cash measly  
paycheck & escape.